#### DOCUMENT RESUME

EA 006 920 ED 103 994

Alternative School Finance Plans for Oregon: A Staff TITLE

Oregon School Finance Project, Salem.; Oregon State INSTITUTION

Legislature, Salem. Committee on Equal Educational

Opportunity.

PUB DATE Oct 74

71p.: Not available in hard copy due to marginal NOTE

legibility of original document; A related document is BA 006 921

MF-\$0.76 HC Not Available from EDRS..PLUS POSTAGE EDRS PRICE DESCRIPTORS

\*Educational Finance; Educational Policy; Elementary Secondary Education: \*Equalization Aid; Finance

Reform: Performance Criteria: School Support; Simulation; \*State Aid; State School District

Relationship; \*Statistical Data; Tables (Data); \*Tax

Allocation: Tax Effort

Committee on Equal Educational Opportunity: \*Oregon IDENTIFIERS

ABSTRACT

This preliminary report summarizes much of the work and findings of the research staff of the Committee on Equal Educational Opportunity of the Oregon Legislature. The research staff's task was to analyze Oregon's current school finance system and its various alternatives and to develop a computer simulation for predicting the impact of alternative school finance plans on all school districts in Oregon. Section 1 of the report briefly describes the current Oregon school finance system and some of its major problems. Section 2 outlines the criteria that should be met by any changes to the present system. Section 3 describes three alternative school finance plans that are consistent with the criteria discussed in section 2. Each plan is described, its strengths and weaknesses are discussed, and its impacts are analyzed for 38 Oregon school districts. Section 4 discusses a variety of policy issues and staff recommendations that accompany consideration of school finance reform. (luthor/JG)



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Prepared for the Committee on Equal Educational Opportunity of the Oregon Legislature

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### TABLE

|--|

## INTRODUCTION

plans on all school districts in impact of alternative school finance enable the committee to study the computer simulation which would to develop a school finance to it. The staff was also asked school finance and alternatives analyze the current system of was employed and directed to With these funds, a research staff research staff for the committee. Foundation for funds to support a islature had asked the Ford the leadership of the Oregon legfacilitate the committee's work, financing public schools. 1973 to study Oregon's system of Opportunity first met in December, The Committee on Equal Educational

the work and findings of the staff through September, 1974. A detailed staff report will be available in late December. This report is organized into four sections. The first section briefly describes the current state school finance system and some of its major problems. The second part outlines the criteria that should be met by any changes to the present

three alternative school finance plans which are consistent with the criteria discussed in section two. Each plan is described, its strengths and weaknesses discussed, and its impacts analyzed for thirty-eight school districts. The final section covers a variety of policy issues and staff recommendations which accompany consideration of school finance reform.

activity underlie the proposals outlined in this report. During emphasis was given to collecting es-Equal Educational Opportunity during the spring of 1574. The staff worked was also collected from public a computer simulation capability to sential information and developing the first five months, primary Seven months of intensive research In addition, the staff visited a number of school districts to find hearings held by the Committee on school finance plans. Information analyze the impact of alternative and check the accuracy of the data Department of Education to gather closely with personnel in the used in the computer simulation. During

out the problems facing educators in different parts of the state, and the reforms they would support.

only the most essential data are district reorganization. of alternatives for five years into merts and local property values, it can estimate the fiscal impacts analyzing school finance alternatives. school district in Oregon. of school finance plans on each of information per district for simulation is a flexible tool for the costs and impacts of a variety Simulation was developed to analyze each alternative plan. possible, however, for the computer printed out for each plan. three plans described in this report, the fiscal consequences of school the future. It can also estimate using projections of school enroll-It can provide answers quickly. The Oregon School Finance Computer to print out as many as 260 pieces In the The It is

For the past two months, the staff has analyzed a variety of school finance plans. The three plans presented in this report are different approaches to reforming

Each would provide greater equality of educational opportunity for the children of Oregon than the present system. And the plans are realistic as they accommodate the fiscal and political realities of school finance in Oregon; they require only small increases in state funds and modest changes in the system of distributing state school aid. Furthermore, they maintain local control.

This report provides background information for the next meeting of the Committee on Equal Educational Opportunity to be held on October 2-4 at Otter Crest on the Oregon coast. At that time, the committee will consider the plans and recommendations contained in this report, and will attempt to reach general agreement on the direction school finance reform legislation should take. The staff will then prepare final proposals for consideration by the committee later in the fall.

#### OREGON'S CURRENT SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM

In the United States, public primary and secondary education is the responsibility of the states. Most states, however, delegate much of the operation and financing of schools to local school districts. The role of states in public education is usually limited to setting program requirements for schools and providing funds to insure that school districts provide adequate educational programs.

of total revenue sources for states provided less. Since most national average of 43%. Only five school districts compared to a district to spend at the same determines their ability to perty wealth of school districts school revenues in Oregon are 74 the state provided only 24.48 the lowest in the country. The level of state support of pubhigh per student wealth requires finance educational programs. raised by property taxes, the prolic schools in Oregon is one of lower tax rates than a poor In other words, a district with In 1973-

The state of Oregon, as mentioned above, provides a relatively small proportion of the revenue sources of

public elementary and secondary schools. Ninety-four percent of this state school aid is distributed through the Basic School Support Fund; the remaining 6% is distributed to school districts from the Common School Fund, the Educational Improvements Account and through categorical grants. The purpose of the Basic School Support Fund, according to the Oregon statutes, is to "equalize educational opportunity" and to conserve and improve the standard of education.

Before examining whether it accomplishes these purposes, it is necessary to describe the BSSF and its components. Table I shows the amount of state money distributed through the BSSF since 1967 and its relationship to total current operating expenditures for all schools.

The BSSF, which is made up of funds appropriated by the legislature every biennium, is divided among five apportionment accounts:

1) transportation, 2) equalization
3) flat grants, 4) growth, and
5) decline in enrollment. The amounts and relationships among the five accounts are shown in Table 2.



#### TABLE 1

Growth of the Basic School Support Fund in Oregon since 1967 (in thousands)

1967-68 1968-69 1969-70 1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	School Year
\$77,786 77,431 88,977 88,5 99,428 104.063 143,520	BSSF
\$286,729 325,536 363,363 398,013 433,926 467,815 513,380*	Current Expenditures
27.1% 23.8 24.5 22.3 22.9 22.9 28.0*	BSSF as a % of current expenditures

<sup>\*</sup>estimated figures

#### TABLE 2

Flat Grants Growth Decline	Declining Enrollment Accounts	(20% times A-B) D. Flat Grants Growth and	C. Equalization Account	B. Transportation Grants	A. Total		1973-74	The Basic School Support Fund
105.2 1.5 .5	107.2		26.8	9.4	143.5	of Dollars	Millions	•
73.3 1.			18.7	້ ຄ ເຫ	100%	of total	Percent	

by an analysis of program needs, average daily membership (ADMW), to a formula which increases the dation level, is computed according child with a basic educational prowhich is supposed to provide each complexity. In very simple terms, present in all of its byzantine the state is too complicated to much money a district receives from school students.) diture for children in the state. well below the average current expendation of \$682.23 per weighted proportion to the increase in exfoundation level in 1955-56 in gram. the state first establishes the tary students and \$886.89 for high (This amounts to \$682.23 for elemen-74 this computation produced a penditures since that year. In 1973however, the basic program, or founlevel of per pupil expenditure The procedure for determining how Instead of being determined foun-

The foundation determines the total amount to be distributed by the BSSF. State reimbursement for transportation, which is 60% of the approved expenditures for transportation two years earlier, is then subtracted from the total. The remainder is divided among the four other

apportionment accounts. The amount available for equalization is set by statute at 20%. Most of the rest is distributed as flat grants, with a small amount reserved for the growth and declining enrollment adjustments. The following diagram illustrates how the state equalization to districts is determined:

		program	basic	Of	amount	Dollar
				minus		
			grants	flat	supplied	State
				minus		
receipts	fund	school	common	fees &	forest	Federal

			minus		
value	true ca	district	rate x	required	State
	cash	ř	li	Ď.	
		district	to the	equalizatio	State
		ř		ation	



ment by the amount of the flat grant. ceive, in other words, a total grant in 1973-74 as if it was decline by the amount of the enrollment adjustment computed cation based on the previous year's allocation and an equalization alloment receives not only a flat grant receives a growth grant computed enrollment. In addition, it grant based on the previous year's growing enrollment receives a adjustments demand explanation, year it would only receive remained at 2000 ADMW the next actually enrolled that year. receiving flat grants for declining enrollment grants by multiplying 75% of the enrollment enrollment, but also a declining A district with declining enrollthe same district's enrollment ADMW rather than the 2000 ADMW 750 ADMW. flat grants, \$206.42 x ADMW) for district had 3000 ADMW on June flat grant. flat grant and an equalization The enrollment growth and decline flat grants for 3000 ADMW and 1973, it would receive that year 1973 and 2000 ADMW on December 30, losing students. A district with for they favor districts which are (which are computed the same as The district would re-For example, if a

ADMW, a loss of 1750 ADMW from the year before. In other words, a district would receive considerably more state money if its enrollment declined than if it remained constant, but would face a large reduction in state funds the next year. The enrollment decline adjustment, therefore, accentuates the loss from declining enrollment by building up a district's state allocation one year and taking it away the next.

The purpose of the BSSF, as mentioned earlier, is to provide equal educational opportunity. Under the present system, slightly less than 20% of the BSSF is available for equalization. In 1973-74 this amounted to \$26.8 million or about 2.5% of total state and local school revenues. Although the dollar amount is small, the current formula does provide some equalization. In 1973-74, 174 or 51.3% of the districts in the state received state equalization funds. These districts provided services for 66.2% of the students in the state.

In addition to the equalization account of the BSSF, some equalization of local school district revenues occurs through the intermediate education district levy. The





mediate Education Districts. where the children are. words, is to tax all the property districts on a per student basis. distributed to component school agree, a uniform property tax is districts basically follow county state is divided into 29 Interthe districts. The purpose of the is followed. The approved district IED tax base and receipts from the budgets are extended against the levied, and the receipts are in the IED and distribute it IED equalization levy, in other IED levy are counted as revenue by In 4 IED's a different procedure lacking county-wide school dislines and exist in those counties If the voters in an IED

The IED equalization levy provides a significant proportion of the budget for a few districts which are generally small and poor.

Nevertheless, IED equalization is unsuccessful in at least three ways. Pirst, it redistributes only \$9.5 million out of \$93.7 million IED equalization funds from rich districts to poor districts. Second, even though wealth varies substantially among IED's, the system does not permit redistribution among them. Consequently, under the

some districts that receive state equalization money are, at the equalization money are, at the same time contributing districts under the IED equalization formula. The opposite also holds true. Third, the amount of equalization that can be accomplished within an IED depends on the size of the IED levy. Because of differences in total tax bases and voter acceptance, the levy can be both important in some IED's and trivial in others.

on a flat grant basis. The amount remaining for direct equalization chosen to spend. The IED equal-ization levy also has a limited the average student expenditure only equalize up to the foundation and distributes most of that money a third of the costs of education, The state contributes less than heavily on the local property owner. schools in Oregon falls most among Oregon school districts. local school boards and voters have level, which is considerably below ing public elementary and secondary In summary, the burden for supportimpact on equalizing expenditures (\$26.8 million in 1973-74) can

Finally, the current system is needlessly complicated. Districts

they do not know how much money they will receive each year. And, the public does not understand how state, local, IED and other funds interact to produce a school budget. Consequently, school levies are often defeated because the voters are confused. The strength and stability of the educational system in Oregon requires that the people understand and have control of their public institutions.



#### FOR REFORM

In developing the three finance plans presented in this report, the staff first agreed upon certain criteria that should be met by any adequate school finance system. Some of these objectives may be unattainable immediately. Nevertheless, they act as benchmarks against which the strengths and weaknesses of the proposed plans can be assessed.

1. A new school finance plan should be simple.

of government. Furthermore, in a of money between different levels meet. Any system of finance is problems of different areas around to accommodate the particular districts. Over the years Oregon's once simple "minimum state money which meets the special a single system for distributing state as diverse as Oregon, it involves transferring large amounts complicated. And school finance tant but most difficult standard to This is perhaps the most imporfoundation program" has been amended **systems** and small rural school problems of both large urban school is extremely difficult to design is more complicated than most. It the state. As a result, Oregon's

school finance system is incomprehensible not only to the voters, but to most educators and legislators as well. In placing a high priority on keeping the school finance system simple, some adjustments to provide equity may have to be omitted. If government is to be accountable, the public must be able to understand the laws. The plans presented in this report attempt to avoid needless complexity and build upon concepts that can be understood by the layman.

2. A new school finance plan should be fiscally neutral.

aid should be used to equalize the ability of school districts to support greater proportion of state school entire state that should stand bethe state and it is the wealth of the education is the responsibility of school district where he or she provided a child should not be a means that the educational resources Serrano criteria, fiscal neutrality Frequently referred to as the their educational programs. school revenues are raised locally, happens to live. function of the wealth of the hind each child. Since most In Oregon, ø





This criterion should apply to capital outlay and debt service, as well as to operating expenditures. If the quality of school facilities affects the educational opportunities of children, then it follows from the Serrano principle that he ability of a district to construct facilities should not depend on the wealth of the district in which the child lives.

Fiscal neutrality does not mean that educational expenditures in every district must be the same for every child, or that local property taxes may not be used to support education. To the contrary, the principle allows for local choice of educational expenditures if the voters are willing to tax themselves to do it. In other words, districts which have the same educational tax rates should be same level of expenditures for each student.

3. In a new school finance plan, the state should assume a larger share of the excess costs of extra educational programs mandated by the legislature.

education programs, but covers only part of the costs. Furtherenacted by the legislature. additional educational programs quires local districts to fund districts to finance special more, the state funds some special example, the state requires diseducation programs but the state required to provide career career education. education programs from local bursement is not adjusted to take only marginally. And state reimprograms completely, and others tricts to provide handicapped The current state aid system resources. into account the ability of for them. provides almost no money to pay Another example is Districts are

4. Reform of the state school aid system should be treated apart from tax reform.

Undoubtedly, there are tax inequities in Oregon that deserve the attention of the legislature. But, legislation to provide equal educational opportunities for children can and should be separated from legislation to provide greater tax equity. We have there-

difficulty of reducing expenditures in high spending districts. To reason for this is the political educational costs. large increases in state and total provide equal opportunity, states more than 10% (or \$50 million) have had to raise the expenditures of invariably been accompanied by finance reform in other states has above current state costs. School which would not increase costs in increased costs. low spending districts, which results attempted to devise plans The primary

sion is made to put more money into basic school support, the computer omy, nowever, a revised school large amounts of additional state tax reform, or to expectations of can quickly determine how to distrisupport is appropriate. If a decifinance plan should not be tied to the unsettled condition of the econhistory of tax reform in Oregon and bute the extra funds. Given the that the present level of state tax structure, we are not suggesting butional equity within the existing finance plans that provide distri-In attempting to present school

> of the state. ences among different geographic areas provide for identifiable cost differ-A new school finance system should

cost of living difference between the study recently completed by the Department of Revenue shows a 7% these schools receive extra support. educational opportunity requires that student costs. Again, equality of schools with justifiably higher Similarly, the sparcity of population highest and lowest economic regions district officials. A cost of living which are not controllable by school ments are based on cost differences equal tax effort, when those adjustor at least permits, adjustments to erences. The Serrano principle requires differences, and small school cost diffdifferences, possible teacher salary differences, cost of construction in some areas creates necessary small formula should provide for this. in the state. the rule of equal expenditures for This criterion includes cost of living A new school finance

implemented gradually. School finance reform should be

decisively voted down a one-time In May, 1973, the voters of Oregon

district costs, as well as other a sweeping change of the present system undoubtedly would be defeated again. Similarly, district or decrease expenditures rapidly productivity in the schools. provisions to encourage greater without considerable inefficiencies. should be limited in the amount expenditures should not be permitted Any proposal which attempts such that districts cannot increase they increase or decrease in any year. This follows from evidence to fluctuate wildly. Expenditures local districts to the state. shift in school support from limitations on annual increases in In the following plans, we recommend

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#### THREE FINANCE PLANS

This section presents three alternative school finance plans for the consideration of the committee. Each plan is designed to equalize the educational opportunities of children in Oregon.

gradual equalization of district which they emphasize one set of school district. tax levy borne by taxpayers school district. The staff on the need to consider the total effort equalization plan focuses expenditures. The total tak in plan emphasizes continuity with choice. gives high priority to local The local guaranteed yield plan values as opposed to another. They differ in the extent to are reasonable alternatives the present system and a more believes that all three plans finance system. for reforming Oregon's school The foundation phasein each

Each plan is described in general terms. Most of the information on the effects of the plans is contained in a set of tables following each description. To faciltate comparison of the plans, which provide basic data on the thirty-eight school districts

used to illustrate the impacts of the plans. The data on these two tables remain unchanged for the three plans.

The first table accompanying each plan indicates the decisions which went into the plan. The other three tables provide information on the results of the plans. The column entries for the tables are defined below.

DEFINITIONS OF TABLE ENTRIES

STATE LGY EQUALIZ SIM PER ADMW

The amount of equalization money provided by the state to bring a district up to the state guarantee.

TOTAL STATE RCPT SIM
PER ADMW

The sum of state receipts from equalization aid, special
grants, transportation,
cost of living adjustment, less any reductions
resulting from the 15%
expenditure increase
limitation.

TOTAL STATE RCPT DIFF PER ADMW

The difference between total state receipts under the plan and actual receipts in 1973-74.



	PER ADMW	SIMULATED	TOT RECEIPTS
local receipts.	intermediate, and	federal, state,	This includes all

DIFFERENCE TOT RECEIPTS PER ADMW current system. parable 1973-74 receipts under the receipts and the comtween total district The difference be-

TAX expenditures. maintain current current tax rate and The tax rate used in the rate needed halfway between the is calculated to be the simulation. It ដ

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the The operating rate. the actual 1973-74 difference between simulated rate and

RATE

TAX DIF

15% a year. diture increases to a district's expenresulting from limiting The saving to the state

PER ADMW

PHASE-IN SAVING FROM

of the figures For example, the Department's estimates of local levy receipts or by the Department of Education. against the audited data for data. and federal forest fee receipts always correspond with one another. those used by the Department do not reported in district budgets and This results because the data provided by individual districts not correspond exactly to those of these minor data problems, significant differences. will be made where there are us by the Department were budgeted the same data. tions and district tax rates using simulate perfectly BSSF allocause in setting the local levy. from the budgeted figures districts BSSF allocation sometimes differ used in computing a district's become available. Corrections 1973-74 which has only recently is impossible, therefore, to the three plans. relationships contained in however, affect the basic We are checking this data discover that in the tables do The data provided None some Ιt

BASIC DATA

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THE PRESENT PERCENTAGES STIPULATED BY LAW FOR THE BSSF PROGRAM. THE TOTAL TAX RATE IS COMPUTED BY DIVIDING ALL LOCAL LEVIES WITHIN A SCHOOL DISTRICT BY THE TCV OF THE DISTRICT AND MULTIPLYING BY 1000.

THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY PROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.

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#### a. local guaranteed yield plan

The first broad school finance distribution formula we wish to present to the committee is a local guaranteed yield plan--sometimes known as district power equalizing. This plan stresses the value of local choice. Within limits, it permits local school districts to select their tax rate and expenditure levels. However, it does not do so at the expense of equity. In fact, it would probably meet a court test of fiscal neutrality should the courts require such a standard in Oregon.

Variations of this local guaranteed yield plan can be devised which take into account special conditions affecting local district costs, such as concentrations of children from low income families, handicapped children, or regional cost-of-living differences. Also, this can be easily phased-in over two to five years if necessary. Such a phase-in provision might be designed to mesh with other educational reforms, such as school district reorganization or consolidation.

To provide the committee with an understanding of a local guaranteed yield system, we have designed such a plan for Oregon and have simulated

its results for every school district in the state. The results for thirty-eight sample districts are shown on Tables 5-8 which follow.

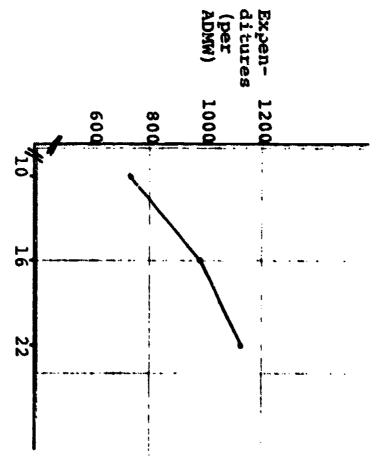
district may increase its revenues per ADMW by \$40 for each additional minimum, or floor, of \$740 per dollar on its tax rate, up to a total of \$980 per ADMW. From the a school tax of \$10 per \$1000 of amount, a school district must levy conditions are summarized in the increase per pupil expenditures by \$25 for each added tax dollar up approval of local voters, a At the discretion of the school property within its boundaries. figure below. These expenditures and tax rate to a maximum expenditure of \$1130. point, the district may further board, and in some cases with the true cash value against all taxable This plan requires an expenditure In order to raise this From that

Under a local guaranteed yield plan such as this, if a district taxes itself at a rate between \$10 and \$22 but does not have enough taxable property wealth to produce the guaranteed amount, the state makes up the difference. Districts





# LOCAL GUARANTEED YIELD SCHEDULE



can also tax themselves above the \$22 maximum guarantee level but there is no equalization above this point. Thus state aid is computed in the following manner.

School tax rate x minus district
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Federal State
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federal district
impact
aid

This plan has no provision for "recapture"; the state does not take any revenue back from a district if the district raises more revenue than is guaranteed at a given tax rate. It costs the state around \$7 to \$8 million to forego recapture. It may be worth this price for political acceptability.

Local School Property

(per \$1000 TCV)

Tax Rate

This plan weights secondary pupils at 30 per cent more than elementary pupils, provides the same special grants for handicapped students as the present system, and provides \$360 per eligible compensatory education student if the district has more than 5% of its students in low income families. Present transportation

allotments are maintained. Also, state aid cuts off at the point where a district's annual revenue increase reaches 15 per cent.



LOCAL GRARANTEED YIELD PLAN: DECISIONS

TED EQUALIZING PROGRAM  REQUIRED IED MATE (\$/1000)  REQUIRED IED MATE (\$/1000)  SPECIFIED OPTIONAL IED TAX RATE (\$/1000)  SIED EQUAL TYPE  RED GUAR YLD AMT AT ROD RATE (\$/ADRX)  SIED GUAR YLD LOWER LINE RATE (\$/MILL/ADRX)  TED GUAR YLD WINK PT TAX RATE (\$/11000)  TED GUAR YLD MAX ALLOWED TAX RATE (\$/1000)	D240 DISTRICY TAX RATE D241 ELEMENTARY SPECIFIED TAX RATE (\$/1000) D242 HIGH SCHOOL SPECIFIED TAX RATE (\$/1000) D243 UNIFIED SPECIFIED TAX RATE (\$/1000)	RATE (\$/1000)  RATE (\$/1000)  X RATE (\$/1000)  ABOVE LGY MAX RATE	PNON REGO LOCAL FFFORT (\$/1000)  LOCAL GUARANTEED VIELD (LGV)  LGV REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT (\$/1000)  LGV ANT AT REGO LOCAL EFFORT (\$/ADMN)	D200 PLAT GRANT PROGRAM D202 ANOUNT OF FLAT GRANT (\$/ADNA) D210 FOUNDATION PROGRAM D212 ANOUNT OF FOUNDATION (\$/ADNa)	D101 KINDERGARTEN COST FACTOR D102 GRADES 1-8 COST FACTOR D103 GRADES 9-12 COST FACTOR D114 COMPENSATORY (AFDC) COST FACTOR D117 COMPENSATORY (INCOME) COST FACTOR D118 CAREER EDUCATION COST FACTOR D120 NECESSARY SHALL SCHOOL COST FACTOR	DIGO YEAR TO BE SIMULATED
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THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.

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# LOCAL GUARANTEED YIELD PLAN: STATISTICAL SUMMARY

SCHOOL	
FINANCE	
STATISTICAL	
SUMMANY	

OPER TEX	TOT OPER TAX	TOT RECEIPTS DIFFERENCE PER ADMI	TOT RECEIPTS SIMULATED PER ADMU	TOTAL STATE RCPT DIFF PER ADMM	TOTAL STATE HCPT SIM PEH ADMU	STATE LGY EQUALIZ SIM PER ADMU	VARIABLES
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TROY NO. 54 AT ANGEL NO. G1 OLNEY NO. 11C VALE UH NO. 3 NOMITH MARION NO. 15 JEWELL NO. 9 FRENCHGLEN NO. 16	UMAPINE TO. 13R HERMISTON NO. 8 HEREFORD-UNIT 30J JUSEPHINE CO. UNIT GORE NO. 81 ALPINE NO. 24C FORT NOCK NO. 24	SUNTEX NO. 10 CLOVER RIDGE NO. 136 RCFARLAND NO. 25 FERNRIDGE NO. 26J BHOOKINGS-HARBOR 17 PT-ORE-LANGLO15 2CJ TROY NO. 54	SUNTEX NG. 10 JOSEPH NO. 6 ADEL NO. 21 ESTACADA NO. 108 CANBY LH NO. 1 BETHAMY NO. 63 CENTRAL HOWELL 540C	COTTKELL NO. 107 ALBANY NO. 5 MARION NO. 20 RUSEBURG NO. 4 REEDSPOKT NO. 105 CONDON NO. 25J DOUBLE O NO. 26	NORTH SANTIAM NO. 12 AUMSVILLE NO. 11 NORTH MARION NO. 15 OPHIR NO. 12 AITHENA NO. 29R CULVER NO.4 JOSEPH NO. 6	NORTH SANTIAK NO. 12 LAKEVIEW NO. 114 CARLTON NO. 11 KLAMATH CO. UMIT MORO NO. 17 TKOY NO. 54 SANDRIDGE NO. 30	DISTRICT
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THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOUNCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.



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THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.

SCHOOL FINANCE STATISTICAL SUMMANY

SCHOOL FINANCE STATISTICAL	NAMMUS		
VARIABLES	RANGE	DISTRICT	VALUE
TOTAL STATE RCPT DIFF	HIGHI 90TH STILE: 80TH STILE: MEDIAN: 20TH STILE: 10TH STILE:	SALEM NO. 24J REDMOND NO. 24J OHIENT NO. 6.J BONNEVILLE NO. 46 WILLOWCREEK NO. 42 HEREFORD-UNIT 30J PORTLAND NO. 1J	3469400.00 362778.69 193431.75 17421.06 -20537.92 -6084277.00
STATE LGY EQUALIZ SIN PER ADMW	HIGH: 90TH STILE: 80TH STILE: 20TH STILE: 10TH STILE:	NORTH SANTIAM NG. 12 LAKEVIEW NO. 114 CARLTON NO. 11 KLAMATH CO. UNIT HORO NO. 17 THOY NO. 54 SANDRIDGE NO. 30	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
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TRANSPORT . RCPT 51M PER ADMW	HIGH: 90TH STILE: 80TH STILE: MEDIAN: 20TH STILE: 10TH STILE:	CHANE UH NO. 1J CONDON NO. 25J ELDKIEUGE NO. 60 WEST STAYTON N/. 61 ASTORIA NO. 1 ONTAKIO NO. 8C NORTH ALBANY NO. 34	0.0 92.21 96.91 46.92 58.67 86.88
COST OF RE- CAP NEGATION PER ADMU	HIGHS 90TH STILES HEDIANS 10TH STILES 10TH STILES	BROTHERS NO. 15 PINE EAGLE NO. 61 CLOVER RIDGE NO. 136 BEND NO. 1 ESTACADA NO. 108 POWERS NO. 31 YANHILL-CARLTON UM 1	6129.00 741.16 247.04 0.0 0.0
SAVING FROM PHASE-IN PER ADMW	HIGHS 90TH STILES BOTH STILES HEDIANS 20TH STILES 10TH STILES	MC KENZIE NO. 68 CANBY NO. 86 OPHIN NO. 12 HYATT NO. 63J FERNDALE NO. 10 GASTON NO. 511J SUNTEX NO. 10	6.0000000000000000000000000000000000000
ADJMT SIM PER ADMW	KIGH: 90TH STILE: 80TH STILE: PEDIAN: 20TH STILE: 10TH STILE:	TIGARD NO. 23J SANDY NO. 46 CROW-APPLEGATE NO.66 CENTRAL HOWELL 540C GOLD BEACH UH NO. 1 PETERSEURG NO. 14C SUNTEX NO. 10	75.76 46.56 30.84 17.29 -40.63 -52.38

THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.

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## b foundation phase-in plan

Oregon has a foundation program with a foundation of \$682.23. This is considerably less than what most school boards and voters think is adequate to support the educational programs in their districts. One reason the foundation level is low is that most state school aid money is distributed in flat grants, and only a small amount is given for equalization.

The Foundation Phase-In Plan eliminates flat grants and uses most of the funds available from the state to increase the foundation level. This approach, in combination with a gradual limitation on expenditures above the foundation level, would reduce variations in district expenditures resulting from disparities in wealth.

One of the problems in raising the foundation level is that it requires more state money. For example, an immediate increase in the foundation level to \$1,000, while maintaining the current local required tax rate of \$10.78 and flat grants of \$206.42, would cost the state \$142 million more than is currently being spent. Undoubtedly, most legislators and voters would find this unacceptable.

growing rapidly. receipts are expected to continue property tax receipts and state remain relatively constant while pupil enrollments are expected to likely to work in Oregon because rely most heavily upon increases would hold increases in state costs over five years. increased costs. Such a plan is income tax receipts to in property values and state to acceptable levels. in the Serrano decision.) This to equalize educational expenditures the state of California six years It is possible, however, to do this (The Courts gave It would finance the

The plan proposed here would set the foundation level at \$825 in 1973-74. This level would be increased annually, by approximately 78 more than the rate of inflation for the next five years, or until the foundation reached a level considered high enough to guarantee an adequate education.

Every district would be required to tax itself at a rate of \$12 per \$1,000 in true cash value (with appropriate adjustments made for non-unified districts). If a district raised less than the foundation level with this rate,



the state would make up the difference. If it raised more than the foundation level, the state would recapture the excess amount and redistribute it as equalization aid. (If no recapture were allowed it would cost the state about \$7 million more in 1973-74 than we would project for this plan.)

Districts would be permitted to tax their local property at a higher tax rate to support a more expensive program. The permissible add-on tax rate would be limited initially to 50% of the required local tax rate and then would be reduced gradually. By reducing the range between the required local tax rate and the maximum add-on tax rate, the advantages of greater local wealth would be reduced over time.

To recap, the phase-in foundation plan would gradually equalize the state school finance system. It would increase the level of expenditures guaranteed by the state and reduce the maximum permissible tax gradually. The range of expenditures above the foundation level which districts could support on their own would be reduced. Although there would be no equalization or recapture above the \$12

local required rate, the effects of district wealth on expenditures would be reduced by gradually limiting the add-on tax.

Finally, like the first plan, provisions are made for special students, transportation reimbursement, a cost of living adjustment and a 15% phase-in limitation on increases in district expenditures. Tables 9 through 12 provide data on the impact of the plan for thirty-eight sample districts. The plan as presently designed would have cost the state \$44.4 million more in 1973-74 than the present system.

The principal advantage of this plan is that it is easy to understand. For each year, districts would know the foundation level, the local required tax rate, and the maximum add-on tax rate.

Other advantages of the plan:

- It probably meets the Serrano criterion without costing large sums of state money in any one year;
- 2) It is similar to the present system and could be installed without much dislocation at the





district level;

3) The state could predict in advance the plan's total cost.

The plan's major disadvantages:

- tures above the foundation level. This lets wealthy districts have more expensive programs with less effort. While this discrepancy would be reduced as the foundation increased and the maximum local tax rate was reduced, it might not produce equity fast enough to satisfy the courts or those who favor more rapid change.
- 2) The requirement that every district levy on a \$12 tax rate has the same impact as a statewide property tax at that rate.



0100

YEAR TO BE SIMULATED

1973-74

D249 IED EQUALIZING PROGRAM D250 REQUIRED IED RATE (\$/1000) D251 OPTIONAL IED RATE D252 SPECIFIED OPTIONAL IED TAX RATE (\$/1000) D253 IED EQUAL TYPE D254 IED FUDN ANT (\$/ADNH) D255 IED GUAR YLD ANT AT ROD RATE (\$/ADNH) D256 IED GUAR YLD LOWER LINE RATE (\$/MILL/ADNH) D257 IED GUAR YLD UPPER LINE RATE (\$/MILL/ADNH) D258 IED GUAR YLD WAX ALLOWED TAX RATE (\$/1000) D259 IED GUAR YLD WAX ALLOWED TAX RATE (\$/1000)	D241 ELEMENTARY SPECIFIED TAX RATE (\$/1000) D242 MIGH SCHOOL SPECIFED TAX RATE (\$/1000) D243 UNIFIED SPECIFIED TAX SATE (\$/1000)	RAG OFFI ATTORNO TO THE MODERN THE LANGUAGE AND	COY MAX ALLOWED TAX RATE (\$/1000)	BUS LOY KINK POINT TAX RATE (\$/1000)	Will LOV CAME LIVE XVIII (A)XIII/ADX	225 LGY ANY AT REUD LOCAL EFFURT (S/	222 LGY REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT (\$/1000)	220 LOCAL GUARANTEED VIELD (LGV	NOW REOD LE	210 FOUNDATION PROGRAM		202 ANDUNT OF FLAT GR	<b>C</b>	120 HECESSARY SMALL SCHOOL CO	158 CAREER EDUCATION COST FACTOR	117 COMPENSATORY (INCOME) COST FAC	CAPDE ) COS	102 GRADES 1+8 COST FACTOR	101 KINDERGARTEN COST FA
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THIS IS A FOUNDATION PROGRAM WHICH CUARANTEES SO25 PER ARM AT A TAX RATE (FOR A UNIFIED DISTRICT) OF \$12. THERE IS NO FLAT GRANT. DISTRICTS ARE RESMULRED TO LEVY THE C12 TAX, AND IF THEY RAISE MORE THAN THE CUARANTEE THE STATE RECAPTURES THE DIFFERENCE. PROVISIONS FOR SPECIAL STUDENTS, TRANSPORTATION, COST OF LIVING ARUSESTMENT, AND PHASE-IN ARE AS IN THE LOCAL CHARANTEEN VIELD PLAN.



THE FOLLOWING DATA ARE REPORTED FOR A MEPHESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS. BUT THE TOTALS OR MEANS ARE FOR THE WHOLE STATE.

ERIC

Full Text Provided by ERIC

20H3S
FINANCE
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SUMMAKY

OPER TAX HATE DIF	TOT OPER TAX RATE SIM	TOT RECEIPTS DIFFERENCE PEH ADMN	TOT RECEIPTS SIMULATED PER ADMA	TOTAL STATE RCPT DIFF PER ADME	TOTAL STATE RCPT SIN PER ADMU	FOUND EQUAL RCPTS SIM PER ADMH	VARIABLES .
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SILVER LAKE WO. 14 JOSEPH NO. 6 LYNCH NO. 28 GRANC PRAINE NO. 14 MILTON-FREEWATER 31 DEVER NO. 20 CARUS NO. 29	CORVALLIS NO. 509J CONDON NO. 25J GLENDALE NO. 77 NEAH-KAH-NIE NO. 56 YAMHILL NO. 16 PARKERSVILLE NO. 62 SILVERTON UM NO. 7J	SUNTER NO. 10 OMEGON CITY NO. 62 TANGENT NO. 26 GRANTS PASS NO. 7 LEWIS & CLARK NO. 5 GLIDE NO. 12 BROTHERS NO. 15	PISTOL RIVER NO. 16 FORT RUCK NO. 24 COLUMBIA NO. 5J NONTH CLACKAMAS 12 KNOX BUTTE NO. 19 DAYVILLE NO. 16J CENTRAL HOWELL 540C	COTTHELL NO. 107 SHUBEL NO. 80 HUNITOR NO. 142J PILOT ROCK NO. 2 MASCO NO. 7 AHOCK NO. 81 BHOTHERS NO. 15	NOWIH PLAINS NO. 70 CARLTON NO. 11 WEST UNION NO. 1 OPHIN NO. 12 HILL CITY NO. 129J HC KENZIE NO. 68 SHOTHERS NO. 15	NURTH SANTIAM NO. 12 HERMISTON NO. 6 SILVERTON UM NO. 7J #00DBURN NO. 103 COLUMBIA NO. 5J THOUT CKEEK NO. 53 BROTHERS NO. 15	DISTRICT
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THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.



THE FOLLOWING DATA ARE REPORTED FOR A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS, BUT THE TOTALS OR MEANS ARE FOR THE WHOLE STATE.

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THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.



SCHOOL FINANCE STATISTICAL SUHMANY

VARIABLES	RANGE	DISTRICT	AVLNE
TOTAL STATE RCPT DIFF .	HIGH:  90TH STILE: RUI  80TH STILE: TII  8EDIAN:  20TH STILE: JUI  10TH STILE: MAI  10TH STILE: PG:	EUGENE NO. 4J RUCKWOOD NO. 27 TILLAHUOK NO. 5 STANFIELD NO. 6]R JUNTURA NO. 12 MAUPIN UM NO. 1 PORTLAND NO. 1J	3607685.00 401182.25 194052.69 22506.74 -34065.24 -80828.69 -2651381.00
FOUND EQUAL RCPTS SIM PER ADMY	HIGH:  90TM STILE: HEI  80TH STILE: SII  MEDIAN:  20TH STILE: TRO  10TH STILE: TRO  10TH STILE: TRO	MORTH SANTIAM NO. 12 MERMISTON NO. 8 SILVERTON UM NO. 7J WOODBURN NO. 103 COLUMBIA NO. 5J TROUT CREEK NO. 53 BROTHERS NO. 15	-616.48 -616.49 -175.91 -618.66 -7117.25
INSTR CATEG	HIGHT GEF 90TH STILET HC 80TH STILET OAF HEDIANT JOH 20TH STILET DIA 10TH STILET OAF 10TH STILET OAF 10TH STILET OAF	GERVAIS NO. 76 HC KENZIE NO. 68 OAKRIDGE NO. 76 JORDAN VALLEY UH 1 DIAMOND NO. 7 OLEX NO. 11 SUDAVILLE NO. 13	50.00 50.00 50.00 50.00 50.00 50.00 50.00
THANSPORT RCPT SIM PER ADMI	HIGH: CRANE 90TH STILE: CONDO 80TH STILE: ELDRI MEDIAN: WEST 20TH STILE: ASTOR 10TH STILE: ONTAR	CRAME UM NO. 1J CONDON NO. 25J ELDRIEDGE NO. 60 WEST STAYTON N/. 61 ASTURIA NO. 1 ONTARIO NO. 8C NORTH ALBANY NO. 34	0.0 95.21 96.92 56.92 86.28 11.45
LIVING COST	HIGH: TIGES AND SOTH STILES CON MEDIANS CEN STILES CON 10TH ST	TIGARD NO. 23J SANDY NO. 46 ALSEA NO. 7J CENTRAL HOWELL 540C COQUILLE NO. 8 WASCO NO. 7 PISTOL RIVER NO. 16	75.93 30.24 18.23 -47.91
SAVING FROM PHASE-IN PER ADMU	HIGH: SUNTER SOUTER OF THE STILE! CANBY BOTH STILE! OPHIR DEVER 20TH STILE! FROY NICE! TROY NICE!	SUNTEX NO. 10 CANBY NO. 86 OPHIR HO. 12 DEVER NO. 20 NURO NO. 17 TROY NO. 54 YAMMILL-CARLTON UM 1	6000000000000000000000000000000000000
TOTAL STATE RCPT SIM PER ADMU	HIGH: NORTH SOTH STILE: CARL SOTH STILE: WEST MEDIAN: OPHIC 20TH STILE: MILL SOTH STILE: MC KILL BROTE BROTE	NORTH PLAINS NO. 70 CARLTON NO. 11 WEST UNION NO. 1 OPMIR NO. 12 MILL CITY NO. 129J MC KENZIE NO. 68 BROTHERS NO. 15	717.96 591.10 531.28 353.50 -110.41 -565.04

THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.

THE FOLLOWING DATA ARE REPORTED FOR A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS, BUT THE TUTALS OF MEANS ARE FOR THE MHOLF STATE.

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#### c. total tax effort equalization plan

One unique feature of government in Oregon is that voters must approve almost all local government budgets. Some argue, therefore, that the best measure of local effort is the total amount of local taxes voters are willing to pay.

This plan is designed to distribute state school aid on the basis of total local tax effort.

The plan does this in two ways. The first (the total tax rate version) computes a total tax rate for a school district and uses it both to establish the guaranteed yield schedule and to compute the state allocation. The second (the Cherry version) calculates the ratio of school taxes to total local taxes, then applies that ratio times a factor of 1.5 to the district's true cash value to determine the state allocation.

# TOTAL TAX RATE VERSION

This is a local guaranteed yield plan similar to the first plan, but it is based on total tax rate instead of the school tax rate. Districts are guaranteed \$620 per ADMW at a total tax rate of five

dollars per \$1,000 of true cash value. The guarantee increases by \$20 for each additional dollar of total tax rate up to a maximum of \$1220 at a total tax rate of \$35.

The amount a district receives from the state is the guaranteed amount minus the amount raised by multiplying 60% of the total tax rate times true cash value, minus federal impact aid, minus federal forest fees. The following diagram illustrates how the state aid to districts would be determined:

The quaran-			Previous
teed amount			year's tota
for total	minus	809	tax rate x
tax rate x			district
ADMW			true cash
			value

			minus	•
impact aid	federal	fees and	forest	<b>Federal</b>
			II	
	district	to the	equalization	State

The actual amount a district would have to spend might be above or below the guarantee, depending





mainly on whether a district's school tax rate was below or above 60% of the total tax rate. It would be the sum of state equalization, plus other state grants for transportation and other categorical programs, plus the amount raised by multiplying the current year's school tax rate and district true cash value, plus other federal and local receipts.

plans had the same payout schedule. lower school tax rate would get spend \$1400 on each student in aid. If the first district had school tax rate of \$24 it would assuming no other receipts, both than under the local guaranteed spend \$1000 for each child in raise \$800 locally and be able to a school tax rate of \$16 it would raise \$1200 locally and be able would get \$200 of state equalization previous year. Under this plan, are two districts both with \$50,000 Here's an example: local tax rates of \$32 in the tcv per ADMW and both with total state money under this plan plan (plan 1) assuming both If the second district had The district with the Suppose there þ g

> version are presented in tables districts in the state. Willamette Valley relative to other aid to urban districts in the million additional state dollars features were added, the program would cost more than the \$39.7 and the phase-in provisions the these features would increase state needed in 1973-74. Inclusion of does not include allowances for the impact of the total tax rate AFDC students or for a cost of same as the first two plans. This plan treats living differential. transportation If these Data on

A particular feature of this plan is that individual school districts would not be able to affect the state allocation by changing their school tax rates in a given year. The state equalization would be based on the previous year's total tax rate. Changes in the current school tax rate would affect the amount raised locally and the amount received from the state in the subsequent year.

One advantage of this plan is that it equalizes on the basis of the total burden of taxes on taxpayers within each school district. It





0010

YEAR TO BE SIMULATED

(TOTAL	1012
TAX	Y
RATE	EFFOR
(TOTAL TAX RATE VERSION)	TOTAL TAX EFFORT EQUALIZATION PLAN: DECISIONS
	PLAN:
	DECISIONS

1973-74

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TEO EQUALIZING PROGRAM  REQUIRED IED RATE (\$/1000)  OPTIONAL IED RATE  SPECIFIED OPTIONAL IED TAX RATE (\$/1000)  IED EQUAL TYPE  IED FUDN ANT (\$/ADMW)  IED GUAR YLD ANT AT ROD RATE (\$/ADMW)  IED GUAR YLD UPPER LINE RATE (\$/MILL/ADMW)  IED GUAR YLD UPPER LINE RATE (\$/MILL/ADMW)  IED GUAR YLD MAX ALLONED TAX RATE (\$/1000)	DISTRICT TAX RATE ELEMENTARY SPECIFIED TAX RATE (\$/1000) HIGH SCHOOL SPECIFED TAX RATE (\$/1000) UNIFIED SPECIFIED TAX RATE (\$/1000)	LOCAL GUARANTEED VIELD (LGY) LGY MEQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT (\$/1000) LGY ANT AT MEGD LOCAL EFFORT (\$/ADMW) LGY LOKEN LIME RATE (\$/HILL/ADMW) LGY UPPER LINE RATE (\$/HILL/ADMW) LGY MINK POINT TAX RATE (\$/1000) LGY MAX ALCOMED TAX RATE (\$/1000) DIST ALLOWED TO TAX ABOVE LGY MAX RATE	PLAT GRANT PROGRAM ANDUNT OF PLAT GRANT (S/ADMM) FOUNDATION PROGRAM ANDUNT OF FOUNDATION (S/ADMM) FNDN REGO LOCAL EFFORT (S/1000)	KINDERGARTEN COST FACTOR GRADES 1-8 COST FACTOR GRADES 9-12 COST FACTOR COMPENSATORY (AFDC) COST FACTOR COMPENSATORY (INCOME) COST FACTOR CAREER EDUCATION COST FACTOR NECESSARY SMALL SCHOOL COST FACTOR	
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TOTAL TAX EFFORT EQUALIZATION PLAN: RESULTS (TOTAL TAX RATE VERSION)

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E FULLUMING DATA ARE REPURTED FUM A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS, BUT THE TOTALS JR MEANS ARE FUM THE MHOLE STATE.

REPORTED BY TEXT FOR	SES SEE OM THIS	THE PIGURES SLIGHTLY FRO OTHER SOURCE EXPLANATION.						
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OPFR TAX HATE DIF	TOT OPER TAX RATE SIN	TOT RECEIPTS Difference Per Admu	TOT RECEIPTS Simulateu per admu	TOTAL STATE RCPT DIFF PER AUMH	TOTAL STATE RCPT SIM PER AUMW	VARIANLES  STATE LUY  FOUAL IZ SIN PER AUFL
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TRCY NC. 54 MCFARLANC NC. 25 KLAMATH FALLS UP 2 JCSEPH NC. 6 NCFTH CLACKAMAS 12 ELGIN NC. 23 GASTON NC. 511J	UPAPINE NO. 13R LAKE CSWEGE NC. 7J DREWSEY NC. 13 . CREWFEET NC. 89 RURAL CELL NC. 92 NINETY-CNE NC. 91 CICKIE FRAIRE NC. 25	SUNTEX AC. 10 TANGENT AO. 26 RAINIER AO. 13 UPATILLA AC. 68 LACCPB AC. 73 CASCACE LE AC. 5 TRCY AC. 54	SLATEX AC. 10 AATELCPE AC. 50J BEAVER AC. 8 BEAD AC. 1 ALPIAE AC. 26C DEANY AC. 78 PICAEER AO. 13	FALLS CITY NC. 57 FALLS CITY NC. 57 JUNCTION CITY NC. 69 LINCOLN CC SCH CIS CLOVER RIDGE NC. 136 HARRIS NC. 46 CRANE UP NC. 1J	LKIAP NC. 30 CCTTRELL NC. 107 RUSEEURG NC. 4 ST. PAUL NC. 45 KLAPATH FALLS NC. 1 MCSC NC. 17 TRCLT CREEK NC. 53	CISTRICT FEHNGIFGF NC.28J CCCCLILLE NC. 3 CCCS EAY NC. 4 PCRC NC. 17 THCY NC. 54 EURNS LF NC. 2
7.42 2.68 2.33 0.60 -1.31 -2.03	23.80 16.81 14.57 11.65 8.94 7.46	7813.62 577.41 134.42 94.21 -18.24 -59.67	11062.22 2383.34 1861.67 1310.03 1064.52 974.67 730.61	284.78 207.59 181.88 -34.54 -237.37 -752.51	711-12 561-91 438-07 284-06 25-45 0.0	VALUE 674.65 535.41 459.76 234.83 0.0 0.0

THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.

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3.80	353.40	2.30	24.32	18.38	15.85	323-47	61.83	THEAL MEAN
3.46	384.00	0.0	0.0	15.75	• 7	LB	146.66	AVERTON NO. 48J
3.21	374.05		0.0	17.66	2.29	356.71		20
3.75	410.00	C. C	•	23.73	6	383.53	-	- C
3.12	653.39	0.0	0.0	21.17	٠	£	tu •	
Ň	0.0	73.14		64.43	. 8.71	0.0	-280.71	-
.3.77	634.63	0.0	0.	19.71	2.29	612.23	•	CALLS CITY NU. 57
	230.61	0.0	•	9	3.97	234.83	•	RESHAM NO. 4
,	415.63	·.	•	11.50	w	397.08	52.	FARKROSE NO. 3
* 1	111-28	0.6	•	4.78	48.60	58.30	(13)	5
(u) (u) (v)	454-20	0.0	•		-	414.15		T NO
3.90	427.12	0.0	٠	12.69	. 13.78	400.65	158.28	
3.48	115.40	C. C	•	43.64	.7	65.12	<b>N</b>	MRPFR NO.
5-51	KC. K.	<b>0.0</b>	134.47	40.41	8.98	0.0	-191-45	
3.17	621.39	· · · · ·	0.0	32.85	8.34	58C.21	200.47	388
64.4	<b></b> 0	18.50	466.26	56.54	7.27	0.0	-270.25	HE KENZIE NO. 68
3.78	410.41	0.0	0.0	18.73	4.17	587.51	15*51	CRESHFLL ND. 40
3.72	484-83	0.0	0.0	Š	8.71	460.58	. 211.59	A INGFIELD NO. 19
3.74	434.19	0.0	•	7.57	26.89	395.73	10.01	GENT NO. 4J
3.11	0.0	46.07	1730.09	\$	2.61	0.0	-276.85	USH 20. 18
		o •	•	<u>د</u> • ت		0.0	-206.42	KLAMATH FALLS NO. 1
3.70	. 424.00	0.0	0.0	13.13	5	435.53	184.46	
S	61.436	13.62	0.0	9.79		473.94	163.35	M AND NO. 5
-	59°F5F	C.C	6		7.59	356.62	14.44	W NO
29	5L.3d	0,,0	603.67	ů		0.0	-194.65	ALIANS SH NO. 2 .
4	0	234.73	1213.20	•		0.0	C	OLEX NO. 11
₩ . 49	173.71	·.c	0.0	2	5.02	71	-60-11	FOSPOAT NO. 105
.6U	051.00	0.0	0.0	•	8.81		186.16	HTH UMPCHA NO. 19
	507.69	0.0	0.0	11.77	8.90	. 541	228.54	רב .0א מאנאמיי
3.21	394.70	<b>د.</b> د	0.0	14.27	6.33		168-21	5END NO. 1
3.60	24.655	c. 0	0•0	8	9.06	568.	225.01	WIRTH BEND NO. 13
~	56.164	0.0	0.0	23.67	8.02	455.	189.12	OS BAY NO. 9
4-02	472.05	2,0	٠ <b>.</b> 0	•	7.21	448	164.55	
3.50	400.70	0.0	0.0	29.45	2.53	456.75	25.37	MINETY-ONE WO. 91
5-L1	522.87	32.07	0.0	15.32	8.57	53C.65	201.75	UNECUM CITY NO. 62
64.E	434.20	U. 0	C.O	13.43	16.17		C	SEECO NO.
3.57	45	C.C	0.0	22.52	36.62	376.55	135.25	U. 50
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EXPLANATION.

SCHIPL FINANCE STATISTICAL	SLFFARY		
VAHIABLES	RANGE	DISTRICT	VALUE
TOTAL STATE ACPT DIEF PER AUMW	BCTH ZIILE	C+ELL ALLS C	284.78 207.57 1d1.d8
	111 114 114 114 114	. VC . 13 . C . 46 . S . E . C .	-34.54 -237.37 -285.51 -752.51
STATE LGY EGUAL IZ SIM PER AUNH	HIGH SCIP TILLE BCTH TILLE FEDIAN 2CIP TILLE 1CIH TILLE LOW	FERNPICGE AC. 28J CCCUILLE AC. 8 CCCS BAY AC. 9 GRESHAP AD. 4 MORC AC. 17 TRCY AC. 54 BLRAS UT AC. 2	535.41 459.70 234.83 0.0 0.0
INSTR CATEG RCPT SIM PER ADMU	HIGH 9CTH ZIILE 8CTH ZIILE MEDIAN 2OTH ZIILE 1CTH ZIILE	LINCCLA CO SCH CIS CCCLILLE NC. 8 TIG#RD NC. 23J ELCRIECGE NC. 60 SHLEEL NC. 80 REECVILLE NC. 29 PISTCL FIVEP NC. 16	10.56 8.02 2.82 2.23 0.0
TRANSPORT RCPT SIM PER ADMM	HIGH 901H #11LE 801F #11LE FEDIAN 201F #11LE	CRANE UP NC. 1J CCACCN NC. 25J ELCRIECGE NC. 60 WEST STAYTON N/. 61 ASTORIA NO. 1 CATARIC NO. 8C NCRTH ALBANY NC. 34	544.31 82.58 45.85 26.54 16.58 12.26
COST OF RE- CAP NEGATION PER ADMW	SCIT WILLE SCIT WILLE MEDIAN 2CIT WILLE LOW.	SCATEX NC. 10 SCCHCUSE NO. 32 ARCCK NC. 81 CARLS NC. 29 CLARKES NC. 32 DAPASCUS UNION NC.26 YAPHILL-CARLTON UH 1	9082.79 866.53 360.32 0.0 0.0 0.0
SAVING FROM PHASF-IN PER ADM	HIGH SCIT TILE BOIN TILE MEDIAN 2011 TILE 1014 TILE 1014 TILE	CRANE UF AC. 13 141SH BENC AC. 24 RAINIER AG. 13 SISTERS AG. 6 ALPINE AC. 26C TRCY AC. 54 YAPFILL-CARLTON UH 1	546 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.
TOTAL STATE  REPT SIM PER ADMM	HIGH TILE  9CTH TILE  8CTH TILE  1CTH TILE  1CTH TILE	LKIAH NC. 80 CCTTRELL NC. 107 RCSEEURG NC. 4 ST. FAUL NC. 45 KLAMATH FALLS NC. 1 MCMC NC. 17 TRCUT CREEK NC. 53	711.12 561.91 486.07 284.06 25.45 0.0 6.0

THE FIGURES IN THIS TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE REPORTED BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE TEXT FOR EXPLANATION.

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	THE FOLLOWING DATA ARE REPORTED FUR A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF SCHOOL I
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TOT OPER TAX	146
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<b>&gt;</b>	1353	10	37,	17.50	20.	3557086,00	BEAVERTON RO. 403
	1050	•	8	2	- O	2706.2	NOLETON NO. 1
2			755	20.02	66.7	942.5	RMISTON NO. 8
				0.64	76.5	1955.2	CRMAN OH NO. 1
	100				99.	46074.6	LS CITY NO
	1257		122	15,09	41.6	57856.0	ESHAH NO. A
	4321		1010	15,76	57,	901532,1	RKROSE NO. 3
				24,53	80.3	9163.0	RTLAND NO. 1J
	1204		10	11.05	8/17	15687,96	CASCADE UH NO. 5
	1904	0 0		17,17	Ā	5490.0	20° 2
	1961		# A O V		10162	09.6	ARPER 10. 6
_	1218		76	41		7815.6	RAL LINN
	.1162	•	70		14170	3.6	CIO NO. 95C
	866	0 1	100	•	41764	30002.1	KENZIE N
	2220	<b>5</b> 4			4 2 C 2 Z	18969,9	RESTELL NO. 40
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(m) (	1191			, .	7000	30671,3	OOD RIVER NO
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72	2795	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	174	-	7007	5797,3	EEDSPORT
6	. 32 <b>3</b>		õ	49.4	101.3	5133,1	CUTH OKPOUR NO.
ű,	1174	<b>*</b>		•		90370.3	FONDING NO. 23
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יע	* O O O				20.0	5290.0	REGON CITY NO. 6
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<b>3</b> TOT	7	TOT OPER TAX	TOT RELEIPTS	TOT OBER TAX	7		

THE PIGURES IN THIS
TAX RAT
TABLE MAY VARY SLIGHTLY BETWEEN
FROM THOSE REPORTED
BY OTHER SOURCES. SEE EXPENDITE
TEXT FOR EXPLANATION. 1973-74

TAX RATE IS CALCULATED TO BE HALFWAY BETWEEN PRESENT RATE AND THE RATE NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN PRESENT EXPENDITURES. ADDITIONAL COST TO THE STATE IS \$39.7 MILLION ABOVE 1973-74.

TAX RATE IS PRESENT RATE.
ADDITIONAL COST TO THE
STATE IS ONLY \$24.7 MILLION
ABOVE 1973-74 BECAUSE MORE
DISTRICTS ARE AFFECTED BY
THE PHASE-IN PROVISION

TAX RATE IS THAT NECESSARY
TO MAINTAIN PRESENT EXPENDITURES. ADDITIONAL COST
TO THE STATE IS \$40.0
MILLION ABOVE 1973-74

would probably meet the Serrano test and probably would not distort local choice among different public services. One disadvantage is that it is complicated.

# THE CHERRY VERSION

This is another way of equalizing educational expenditures on the basis of the total tax levied within school districts. Again this is a local guaranteed yield plan which uses the ratio of school tax rate to the total tax rate in the calculation of state equalization grant.

The state guarantees \$740 per ADMW at a school tax rate of \$10 per \$1000 of true cash value. Districts would receive an additional \$40 for each \$1 of tax up to \$16, and \$25 for each \$1 of tax from \$16 to a maximum of \$22. Districts would be permitted to tax above \$22 without recapture.

The amount a district would receive from the state is the difference between the guaranteed amount and the amount it raised locally and from other state sources. For state allocation purposes the amount

raised from local taxes would be adjusted by multiplying the district's true cash value by an adjustment factor. This factor is the proportion of school taxes to total taxes, multiplied by 1.5 to keep this plan from costing too much state money. The calculation of state equalization aid would be made as follows.

The guaran- School tax teed amount minus rate x x ADMW district tov (adjustment factor)

Federal State
forest Equalization
minus fees and = to the
federal district
impact

we can illustrate how this plan works by using the same example as for the previous version. Again we have two districts with \$50,000 true cash value per ADMW and with total tax rates of \$32. With a school tax rate of \$24 the first district would be guaranteed the maximum expenditure of \$1130 per ADMW. It would not receive state

equalization aid. Locally it would raise \$1200 for each student. The second district, with a school tax rate of \$16, would be guaranteed \$980 per ADMW. It would receive \$380 in state aid and raise \$800 locally for a total expenditure of \$1180 for each student in the district.

This plan treats transportation grants for special students and the phase-in provisions the same as the other plans. It does not include allowances for AFDC students or for a cost-of-living differential. Again, if these features were added it would cost the state somewhat more than the \$40.5 million projected. Data on the results of this plan for the thirty-eight districts are presented in tables 17-20.

Both versions of the total tax effort equalization plan assist those areas which have high local taxes. The Cherry version gives the most help to districts with high total taxes and relatively low school taxes. It has the disadvantage, therefore, of providing an incentive to shift activities out of the school budget and into other local government budgets.

39

TOTAL TAX EFFORT EQUALIZATION PLAN: DECISIONS (CHERRY VERSION)

FOR KINDERGARTEN (S/STUDENT) FOR COMP ED (AFDE) (S/STUDENT) FOR CAREER ED (INCOME) (S/STUDENT) FOR CAREER ED (S/STUDENT) FOR NECESSARY SHALL SCHOOLS (S/STUD) FOR NECESSARY SHALL SCHOOLS (S/STUD) FOR NECESSARY SHALL SCHOOLS (S/STUD) FOR DISTRICT TYPE ADJUSTMENT FOR DISTRICT TYPE ADJUSTMENT FOR DISTRICT TYPE ADJUSTMENT ARBLE ESIDENTIAL TOV LOCALLY TAXABLE ESIDENTIAL TOV TAXABLE BY IED RECAPTURE ALLOWED OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT INCREASE IN TOT ROPTS OVER 73-74 HERRY FACTOR ICTS PRINTED ORDER	D250 REQUIRED IED RATE (\$/1000)  0.0 0.251 OPTIONAL IED RATE 0.252 SPECIFIEU OPTIONAL IED TAX RATE (\$/1000)  0.0 0.253 IED EQUAL TYPE 0.254 IED FNDN ANT (\$/ADM#) 0.0 0.255 IED GUAR YLD AMT AT RGO RATE (\$/ADM#) 0.0 0.256 IED GUAR YLD LOMER LINE RATE (\$/MILL/ADM#) 0.0 0.257 IED GUAR YLD UPPER LINE RATE (\$/MILL/ADM#) 0.0 0.258 IED GUAR YLD WINH PT TAX RATE (\$/MILL/ADM#) 0.0 0.259 IED GUAR YLD MAX ALLOWED TAX RATE (\$/1000) 0.0	TE TAX RATE (\$/1000) 0.0 CIFED TAX RATE (\$/1000) 0.0 ED TAX RATE (\$/1000) 0.0	LGY UPPER LINE RATE (S/HILL/ADRW)  LGY KINK POINT TAX RATE (S/1000)  LGY HAX ALLOWED TAX RATE (\$/1000)  DIST ALLOWED TO TAX ABOVE LGY HAX RATE  OTHER TO TAX ABOVE LGY HAX RATE	220 LOCAL GUARANTEED VIELD (LGV)  222 LGV REDUIRED LOCAL EFFORT (\$/1000)  225 LGV AHT AT REDU LOCAL EFFORT (\$/ADMW)  226 LGV LOJER LINE RATE (\$/HILL/ADMW)  227 LGV LOJER LINE RATE (\$/HILL/ADMW)  228 LGV LOJER LINE RATE (\$/HILL/ADMW)  229 LGV LOJER LINE RATE (\$/HILL/ADMW)		200 FLAT GRANT PROGRAM 202 ANDUNT OF FLAT GRANT (\$/ADM#) 0.0 0.335 CAF	DIGI KINDERGARIEN CUST FACTOR DIGZ GRADES 1-8 COST FACTOR DIGZ GRADES 0-12 COST FACTOR DIGZ COMPENSATURY (AFDC) COST FACTOR DIGZ CAMEER EDUCATION COST FACTOR DIGZ NECESSARY SMALL SCHOOL COST FACTOR	O TERR SE DE CENTRE DE COMPANY DE
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## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

There are a number of issues which are indirectly related to school finance reform which the staff believes the committee should consider. Action on them is not essential to reform of the state's school aid system. To varying degrees, however, adoption of the following recommendations would improve the equity and efficiency of the school finance system in Oregon.

This section includes discussions and recommendations on school governance and district reorganization, special education, urban school finance problems, occupational education, capital outlay, transport tion, and public schools and productivity.

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#### a. school governance and district organization

Oregon has achieved substantial progress over the last several decades in the area of school governance and district reorganization. Nevertheless, there are some specific matters to which we believe the committee should give careful consideration.

# SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Oregon statutes presently specify 10 different types of local school districts. Such a variety of districts causes unnecessary confusion, promotes inefficiencies, and inhibits attempts to equalize school finance arrangements. Consequently, we believe that the committee should recommend collapsing all existing district categories into a single category of unified districts.

Oregon presently has 339 operating school districts. Though this is less than half the districts in existence twenty years ago, it still appears to be an excessive number. The unification of all presently non-unified districts would reduce this number to approximately 178. Under such an arrangement, there would still be

districts of less than a thousand students, which are difficult to justify on economic or educational grounds. However, the overall grounds. However, the overall situation would be vastly improved over the present. We recommend, therefore, that the committee endorse the reorganization bills that have recently been reported out of the Interim Education Committee which require unification by March 31, 1976.

# STATE LEVEL ORGANIZATION

affect state educational policy in and school facilities sections in not having fiscal policy analysis nucleus of policy analysts as well necessary to employ a small ment of Education with funds consider, therefore, a recommendaand teacher collective bargaining long-range fiscal effects of such needed to analyze matters which It does not employ the personnel the State Department of Education. Oregon is presently handicapped by tion to provide the State Departproposed school finance reform, topics as enrollment shifts, these areas. believe the committee should proposals are not researched. Consequently, the

as discretionary funds with which to supplement their expertise on an ad hoc basis.

school construction and renovation constitute a substantial sum of money each year. Similarly, the State Department lacks the personnel necessary to gather information on the utilization and adequacy of school facilities which would be necessary to coordinate state policy in this area. We suggest that the committee recommend that a facilities section be established and funded by the next legislature.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Endorse legislation to create a single category of unified school district.
- 2. Endorse the Interim Education Committee's reorganization bills requiring unification by 1976.
- 3. Establish and fund a fiscal policy analysis section in the DOE.
- 4. Establish and fund a school facilities section in the DOE.

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## b, special education

Oregon's share of that total was about \$5.5 million or 35% of the children were receiving special About 32,000 or 57% of these approximately 57,000 in 1972-73. exceptional children of those children who were not provided these funds. on those services. state and local sources was expended mately \$16 million from federal, services in that year. The estimated number receiving regular school services. total. Five acts of legislation receiving special services were The State of of in Almost all Approxischool Oregon was

The limited data that is available on programs for the 32,000 children now being served shows extreme variation in accessibility to services among handicapped children and considerable variation in per pupil expenditures among programs. Programs for school age mentally retarded, physically handicapped and speech impaired children are available to over 75% of those children needing these services while less than 10% of those children with emotional problems were being provided for. One school district was found to be

spending 1.9 times that of another for a mentally retarded program that served the same number of students. Programs for emotionally disturbed children that were reimbursed under the Handicapped Child statute were found to be spending an average of \$313 per child, while emotionally handicapped programs that were reimbursed under the Emotionally Handicapped law were found to be spending \$1,616 per child, or over five times as much.

do not take into account that the child varies by both the disability cost of services to a handicapped cation funding mechanisms in Oregon Basically, the present special eduan alternative delivery system disability (e.g., minor emotional against a continuum of special which arrays handicapping conditions retarded) and the severity of the special education programs. ble system of state support provides a structure for an equitaprogram options. We believe it handicap). handicap to severe emotional (e.g., speech versus mentally On the next page is Of

# ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTING SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDS

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	Learn- ing Prob- lems
	Preg- nant

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Supplementary Teaching

Full-time Special Class

Home

Instruction

Special Day School Part-time Special Class

Room

Resource

Special Consultant

Hospital Instruction

Schools

Residential

The state, in conjunction with local school districts, should develop a comprehensive plan to meet the needs of its handicapped children. Realistic cost estimates for each kind of handicap and type of program should be a part of the comprehensive plan. Implementation of such a plan would have to be phased-in to allow for the proper planning of programs and the training of personnel for those programs.

capped children would be approxistate of providing special education currently being spent. mately \$10 million more than is programs to all of Oregon's handi-The estimated total cost to the capped children in Oregon is estimate of the number of handifigure assumes that the current correct, that a delivery system maintains its present level of fund-ing, and that the state increases Any increase in federal money would reduce the cost to the state. is used, that the federal government like the one on the previous page share of program costs to 70%. This

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5. Develop a comprehensive plan for special education in Oregon.
- 6. Prepare cost estimates of delivering services to handicapped children by alternative types of programs.
- 7. Fund 70% of the excess cost for 100% of handicapped children. Estimated cost, \$10 million.



#### c. urban problems

Many urban school districts across the country are on the brink of failure. Oregon is fortunate to have relatively good city schools. Oregonians should not be complacent, however, for many of the conditions which caused the failure of educational systems in other cities are becoming a reality in Oregon as well.

One problem that is rapidly becoming acute is the lack of resources to maintain the quality of educational programs in the cities.

educational taxes. of urban students, and higher noncosts, the special educational needs schools are complex but seem to fall The financial problems of urban more to provide similar educational into three general areas: higher expenditures hide the fact that the higher costs of land, buildings, districts. Comparisons of per pupil services in urban school districts educational services for each dollar mean that in cities you buy less than in suburban or rural school cost differences among school disteacher salaries, and maintenance formula be adjusted for identifiable therefore, that a new school aid than elsewhere. Since Oregon's school aid We recommend, First, it costs

formula covers only operating costs, and since the costs of land and construction seem to be major factors in the higher cost-of-living in cities, we believe the quality of urban schools could also be greatly enhanced if the state would change its school finance system to include contributing to construction and renovation costs as well as operating costs.

relatively large number of children A second problem arises from the whose children need compensatory Cities attract large numbers of special educational programs. in cities who require expensive utilize the regular education programs to enable them to fully poor and disadvantaged families the incidence of handicapped occupational training which is costs of compensatory education cities. We recommend, therefore, children is usually higher in the income families also want more programs of the schools. presently does. special education programs than programs, occupational programs larger proportion of the excess that the state contribute a MOT

demands for non-educational services schools arises from competing referred to as the municipal overthat the higher per capita expenditure for noneducational services problem that affects urban This is frequently The presumption is

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### RECOMMENDATIONS

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effort plans as outlined in plan 3. and disadvantages of both total tax committee explore the advantages explored two different techniques able for education. The staff has

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formula to provide for municipal

We recommend that the

- cost differences among school districts in Oregon. Encourage additional study of
- occupational education programs, compensatory education programs, and special education programs. Increase state support for



# d, occupational education

Occupational education (which is frequently called career education or vocational education) is becoming an increasingly important part of a basic public school education. Some occupational training is required to satisfy the state's graduation requirements. The federal government has been funding vocational education programs for many years.

occupational education is begun, before any general state funding of or proprietary schools which may occupational training being offered by the IED's, the community colleges, mation at the state level on programs. supported occupational education extent or quality of locally does not collect information on the these federally funded programs. At this time, however, the state with general funds in addition to tion programs which they support have extensive occupational educagrade programs. Many districts federal money for 11th and 12th for occupational education is the state to local school districts Almost all of the money flowing from being offered in the public schools. supplement or duplicate programs information on what is already being Nor is there any infor-

offered is required.

clusters and career exploration. curricular approaches for occupamation, we cannot recommend a large what they would cost. Because of existing programs, better data tional education such as job most states in developing new cluster and career exploration scale occupational education To implement these approaches, The state of Oregon is ahead of grade school children, or of the state, or social service training, such as agricultural training in the northeastern part concentrations of students requiring should be given to districts with Department. Categorical grants models developed by the State ways of implementing the job federal funds and to encourage new modest state categorical program finance plan. Rather, we support a program be integrated into a basic the lack of both kinds of inforin addition to information on however, the State Department needs, career exploration curriculum for also be used to develop mobile particular kinds of occupational training in Portland. Grants might training facilities in rural areas, (perhaps \$1 million) to supplement



cooperative programs with the community colleges or proprietary schools.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10. Direct State Department of Education to collect information on occupational education programs currently being offered in the public schools, the IED's, community colleges, and proprietary schools.
- 11. Provide state categorical money (\$1 million) as seed money for new programs at the local level.

#### e. capital outlay

system in Oregon, local school disof school districts to finance both Court recently declared that districts. The Arizona Supreme afford better facilities than poor wealthy districts are able to struction and maintenance of their tricts are responsible for the con-Under the outlay should be equalized the same district. As mentioned earlier in dependent upon the wealth of the operating and capital costs was constitutional because the ability state's school finance system unfacilities. school finance system. as operating expenditures in a state this report, we believe that capital current school finance This means that

Besides the equity argument, there are two other reasons for the state to assume some responsibility for capital outlay. First, if the state decides to expand its support for special education programs, early childhood programs, and occupational education programs it will have to consider the facility requirements of those programs as well. Second, substantial efficiencies could be realized by transferring students from schools that are overcrowded to those with excess capacity, or by closing or

utilizing half-empty schools for other purposes.

assist local school districts in adequacy, and safety of school could take such a step it would of Oregon. Until such a step is facilities inventory for the state ment of Education and give it funds support legislation to add a believe this committee should facilities in the state. have to collect data on the number, building facilities. Before Oregon Twenty-seven states currently steps that should be considered. taken, there are several immediate to conduct a comprehensive school facilities section in the Depart-

First, we recommend that legislation be introduced which would permit local school districts to use the state's credit rating for local school bond issues. School 'istricts could save between a half and one and a half percent on the interest rates they are now paying. This could save about \$600,000 the first year and ultimately \$3.5 million annually, assuming \$400 million in local indebtedness. Additional savings would be realized from state pooling of the legal, underwriting, printing,



advertising, and other costs of school bond issues. One method of accomplishing such a plan would be for a state bond bank to purchase bonds directly from local school districts. The state bond bank would then sell its own debt obligations to the public and repay them with receipts from the local districts.

school district. the building would revert to the applications for school facilities, obligations up to amounts fixed agency) could issue its own debt using current revenues. At the end state under a lease purchase plan would based The state would then approve local periodically by the legislature. of a state lease purchase plan for building authority (or other state Under such a plan, a state school school construction and remodeling. Second, we recommend consideration specified period, ownership of on need criteria. The locals lease the buildings from the

These two plans do not sever the connection between local property wealth and the capacity of a district to fund school facilities. First priority should be given to building a statewide data base for

analyzing facility needs. Once this step is taken, the state could sever the connection between local property wealth and the capacity of a district to fund school facilities by either 1) providing categorical grants to equalize the costs of capital outlay, or 2) assuming the full cost of school construction and debt service.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12. Support a comprehensive school fabilities inventory for Oregon.
- 13. Allow local school districts to use the state's credit rating for local school bonds.
- 14. Investigate a state lease purchase plan for school construction and remodeling.
- 15. Equalization of school facilities costs in a future state school finance formula.



# f. transportation

an increase beyond 60% is that cost. The reason for recommending and suggest the committee recommend to reimburse 60% of costs. comply with the legislature's intent Oregon's present transportation 50%. formula is complex and fails to minimum level. equal educational opportunity, districts. Sparsely settled areas must use a equally on school districts. transportation costs do not fall increasing reimbursement to 75% of bursement is currently closer to efficient. tricts with an incentive to be equitable and still provide disrather than 60% would be more up 75% of transportation costs formula in which the state picked transportation costs above some therefore, the state should pay for transportation than compact larger proportion of their budgets We believe this is too low In order to insure A reimbursement all

The state formula for depreciation of school buses is also out-of-date and needs to be changed. Buses are much more expensive today than they were when the formula was written and full depreciation requires utilization of the buses long after their usefulness.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 16. Increase state reimbursement of transportation costs to 75%.
- 17. Change state formula for school bus depreciation.





#### g. public schools and productivity

services. A decade ago, the equivalent figure was less than \$208 spent approximately \$513 million for the support of public school almost 150% in ten years. million. This is an increase of way, Oregonians increased their rose almost 155% in the decade Oregon's per pupil school costs made to control for inflation, \$493.84 per pupil in 1964 to school expenditures increase from to account for population expansion, these figures are adjusted in order For the 1973-74 school year, Oregon efforts to support schools from 125%. When further adjustments are \$1,116.77, an increase of more than and efficiency in the public school to encourage increased productivity develop a consistent set of policies even further. Thus it appears that increase aggregate school costs of the handicapped are likely to vocational education and schooling needed reforms in areas such as achieve school finance equity and Moreover, present efforts to have been rising dramatically. short, by any measure, school costs 20% of per capita personal income in 1964 to almost 24% in 1974. I involved. Looked at still another it would be useful for the state to In that regard, we offer When

the following ideas for committee deliberation:

# WINDFALL GAIN LIMITS

with federal programs suggests consider such a ceiling to accompany strongly that school districts Past experience in other states tures be productively employed. The concern is that such expendischool finance plan, it is almost percent of increase and "cut off" equipped to calculate a specified school finance reform in Oregon. Consequently, the committee should tures in any particular school year. 15% increases in per pupil expendihave difficulty absorbing more than in some districts will increase. inevitable that school expenditures In achieving equity in a state new district revenues above that (The computer simulation model is and

# ANNUAL EXPENDITURE INCREASES

Oregon presently employs a statutory mechanism to control school expenditures. Any school district proposing a budgeting increase in excess of 6% annually of its tax





system promotes a costly series of elections in many Oregon districts, fails to take into account the fact that rapid enrollment growth and rising costs have made most districts' tax bases grossly inadequate, and fails to control cost in a district with declining enrollment. Moreover, as demonstrated by the statistics at the beginning of budget referrals has not succeeded in curtailing overall school costs.

Local voter scrutiny of school budgets strikes us as a valuable concept. However, the present mechanisms appear inadequate for reasons we describe above. Consequently, we suggest the following plan or a variation thereof, for Committee discussion.

school district fiscal controls should be based upon budgeted per pupil expenditure figures, rather than district totals. For example, if a proposed district budget is to exceed a per pupil figure equal to the past year's inflation rate plus 2%, then it would be submitted to the local electorate for approval. (A figure slightly in excess of the

annual rate of inflation will probably be needed to keep schools competitive with the private sector for employees.)



## IED BUDGET LIMITS

an equalizing function and a above. IED's presently have both explained in the section on disprogram or service function. the expenditure controls described would be shifted to the state. tribution plans, the IED equalizabudgets might well be subject to Intermediate Educational District expenses in a base year, plus necessary to fund actual operating proposed school finance reforms, tion function, under all three inflation and an added 2%. IED program functions could be limited to the dollar amount AS

# SCHOOL PERSONNEL COSTS

The overwhelming proportion of school costs are attributable to teacher and administrative salaries. For example, in 1973-74 more than 70% of Oregon's total school expenditures went for instructional and administrative personnel.



(Personnel costs in Oregon are relatively high primarily because the statewide pupil to teacher ratic is lower than comparable states, i.e., 19.7 - 1 in 1972. The national average for that year was 20.2. The California average was 22.2; Washington 22.4; and Idaho 23.0.) If fiscal control is to be exerted at all, then attention must be directed to personnel costs. There are at least two avenues for achieving such control.

instructional and administrative instructional and administrative salary categories should not be permitted to exceed the same proportion of the base year budget for such categories. If a district believes that there are extenuating circumstances which justify spending a larger proportion of its budget on these categories, it would have to apply to the state education department for an exemption.

might not be permitted to reduce teacher/pupil and administrator/ pupil ratios to less than the base year state average for such ratios without special permission from the

state education department. All districts wherein such ratios were lower than state averages, would be frozen in place.



# SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION

In terms of their ability to offer a full program of courses, small secondary schools and small secondary school districts, are inefficient. Consequently, we wish to emphasize that the school district consolidation and reorganization plans described previously contain significant implications for added school productivity.

# SCHOOL-BY-SCHOOL ACCOUNTING

more clearly to school outputs, education will be handicapped significantly in identifying new avenues for increasing productivity. Such a linkage is presently inhibited by the absence of accurate school-by-school expenditure information. Consequently, we believe the committee should consider carefully a recommendation for such accounting procedures in Oregon.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 18. Place a limitation on the amount districts can increase revenues per pupil in any one year.
- 19. Tie overall expenditure limitations to the cost-of-living plus
  2% per pupil.
- 20. Eliminate the IED equalization and limit its expenditure increases to the rate of inflation plus 2% over the past year's actual operating expenses.
- 21. Impose a limitation on either proportion of operating expenditures used for instruction and administrative salaries, or on reductions of teacher/pupil ratio.
- 22. Develop a school-by-school accounting system.